

**1691 White Pine Drive  
Two Harbors, MN 55616**

January 17, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to offer my approval of the recent government settlement with Microsoft and ask the Justice Department to finalize the agreement. Although some concerns over Microsoft's competitive tactics were warranted, this case has gone on way too long, at way too much expense to the taxpayer, and is ready for resolution.

The agreed terms are fair and reasonable and actually exceed Justice Department charges. The new measures, including the uniform price list on Windows products for the top computer manufacturers, greater rights to configure Windows to promote competitor products and an interim Windows XP version for that use, should open competition for other software developers.

I ask for a swift conclusion to this case and an opportunity to let businesses succeed unimpeded through this even-handed settlement. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

  
David Johnson